(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objective of the proposed project is to delineate, assess and evaluate the gem stone deposit and formulate mining plans, establish a gem testing laboratory, train the project personnel and charaterise and value the gem stone. The project is formulated to be completed in 36 months with Government input of Rs. 1.28 Crores and UNDP assistance of $673,500.

Closure of all units of Paradeep Phosphates Limited

1185. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL) had closed all its units for the last six months;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the plant authorities in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the construction work of Phase-II Plant has been delayed due to non-release of funds in time; and

(d) if so, the amount released so far for the construction of the said work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILISERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b) Paradeep Phosphate Ltd. (PPL) is a single unit company. The plant was shut-down from March to June, 1989 due to non-availability of imported phosphoric acid. The import of phosphoric acid has since been resumed and the plant has started production from 10th July, 1989.

(c) and (d) The implementation of Phase-II was somewhat delayed during 1987-88 due to fund constraints, as expectation of generation of internal resources did not materialise due to adverse weather conditions and additional funds could be released to the Company only after obtaining a Supplementary Grant. The total amount released so far for the project as a whole is Rs. 434.28 crores.

Production of pulses

1186. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present production of pulses in the country;

(b) whether the production is short of the country's requirement;

(c) if so, to what extent;

(d) what was the per capita availability of pulses in the country in 1988 as compared to that in the year 1987;

(e) what is the area under pulses cultivation in the country;

(f) whether yield per hectare of pulse in the country has been increased after adoption of new strategy for pulse production; and

(g) if so, at what rate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) According to the information available from the States so far, the production of pulses in the country for the year 1988-89 is expected to be about 14.9 million tonnes.

(b) and (c) Since the production of pulses in 1988-89 was expected to be

more than the targetted level of production of 13.30 million tonnes, production is expected to meet the requirement of the country.

(d) The per capita availability of pulses in the country in 1988 is provisionally estimated to be 33.2 grams per day as compared to 35.9 grams per day in 1987. However, with increased production in 1988-89, the per capita availability of pulses in the country in 1989 is expected to increase to about 40 grams per day.

(e) During 1988-89, the area under pulses cultivation was about 244 lakh hectares.

(f) and (g) The yield per hectare of pulses in the country had increased at the rate of 0.34 per cent per annum during the period 1967-68 to 1987-88.

Rehabilitation of Cured Leprosy Patients

@1187. SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to implement some Integrated Development Programme to rehabilitate the cured leprosy patients in the country and if so, the details threof; and

(b) what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard and those already taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) and (b) A Scheme for the Employment/Self-employment of Leprosy-Cured Persons has been finalised by the Ministry of Welfare. The Scheme envisages the training of leprosy cured persons who have been de-rehabilitated and suffer from deformities by giving them suitable vocational training, placement and loans for self-employment.

Presently grants are being given to Voluntary Organisations for vocational training and placement of leprosy cured persons under the Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Disabled Persons.

कच्चे लोहे का आयात

1188. **श्री सन्तोष बागड़ोदिया :** क्या **इस्पात और खान** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार कच्चे लोहे के आयात के लिये तत्काल कोई कदम उठा रही है, यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इसके अभाव से फाउन्डरी उद्योग पर प्रतिकूल असर पड़ रहा है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो सरकार फाउण्ड्री उद्योग को इस संकट से उबारने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री माखनलाल फोतेदार): (क) से (ग) पिछले दिनो देश में कच्चे लोहे की आपूर्ति मांग को पूरा नहीं कर सकी । सरकार ने देश के भीतर कच्चे लोहे का उत्पादन बढ़ाने तथा घरेलू उपलब्धता बढ़ाने के लिये आयात करने के लिये प्रभावी कदम उठाये हैं । आयात को सरल बनाने के लिये सीमा-शुल्क में कुल 85% से 45% तक की कमी की गई है ।

राजस्थान में उत्पाद (ऋण) योजनाओं के अधीन लाभ प्राप्त किसान

1189. **श्री सन्तोष बागड़ोदिया :** क्या **कृषि** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उन किसानों की संख्या क्या है जिन्हें उत्पाद (विपणन) ऋण योजना के अधीन ऋण दिया गया है और उन्हें कितनी धनराशि का ऋण दिया गया है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्याम लाल यादव) : अभी तक राजस्थान में उत्पाद

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 726 Transferred from the 25th July, 1989.